

THE STANDARD

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A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDER

The Officer Candidate School continues to experience exciting growth and progress this quarter. Since our last newsletter we have seen the groundbreaking for reconstruction of the historic Nett Hall. This reconstruction will increase the capacity and capabilities of the hall so that it can better accommodate future OCS classes. When this project is complete we will host a rededication of the hall. This building serves as an ever present monument in honor of the battalion's honorary colonel and best mentor that OCS has: COL (R) Robert Nett.

The OCS battalion holiday party took place on 16 DEC 05 and was a great success. Santa arrived on a fire truck and provided gifts to all of the "good" children and cadre! I need to extend a special thanks to all the support that was provided by the family readiness group, the Friends of OCS (private organization) and the associated companies who made this a great event for all who were in attendance.

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"STANDARDS! NO COMPROMISE!!"

...From the Commander, continued.



ISG Jones shares his wish list with Santa at the OCS Holiday Party on 16 Dec. 05.

Following the holiday party OCS enjoyed a well deserved break during the 2 weeks referred to as "EXODUS." The vast majority of our cadre and candidates were able to take leave during this period

Another first here at OCS occurred on 9 January when our newest company, Echo Company, started its first class with 159 officer candidates. The company is off to a great start and is staffed with a superb cadre. It was truly a whole battalion effort to prepare and resource this company.

On January 17th Charlie Company conducted a change of command ceremony. CPT Scott Thomas relinquished the guidon to CPT Mark Danner. Scott and his wife Carey were instrumental in our operations and they will both be missed. Scott is only moving across the street to be a small group instructor with the Infantry Captains Career Course. Mark and his wife Latandra are coming to us from Delta Company and we look forward to their continued excellent support of the OCS program.

MAJ Carl Bergman and his wife Tami left as the Alpha Company Command team on 19 January. They are off to ILE at Ft. Leavenworth. Carl commanded through 4 OCS class cycles and clearly left a lasting impression on all the candidates that were commissioned through Alpha Company during his exceptional tenure.

The 2006 OCS Hall of Fame Induction Board took place on 19 January and selected 41 of the applicants to make up the OCS Hall of Fame Class of 2006. The battalion will host the Hall of Fame Dinner and Induction Ceremony to honor these new inductees here at Ft. Benning on 30 & 31 March 2006. As in previous years I am certain this will be a memorable event for all.

I greatly appreciate all the hard work and sacrifices that are made by our cadre and families in the conduct of the OCS mission. Linda and I feel blessed to be part of this great organization!

STANDARDS, NO COMPROMISE

LTC Curtis J. Carson
Battalion Commander



Nett hall, named for COL (R) Robert Nett, under renovation. The restored educational space will better serve OCS needs beginning this Spring.

ALPHA COMPANY

A Company recently graduated class 01-06 with 125 2LT's on 19 Jan 06. Class 01-06 was an outstanding class of young officers who will now go into our Army to lead America's most precious resource, our soldiers, in peace and war. I have no doubt that they will accomplish their missions and lead from the front with character, discipline and the warrior spirit.

This is my last cycle as the commander of A Co. I want to thank my Cadre past and present, for their work and effort. Nothing would get done and I would not have had any success without them. They are the life of this organization and deserve all the praise and recognition for training our candidates to become officers. I want to thank and recognize the families of A Company as well. They support their spouses and this program with everything they have and never ask for anything in return. The families of this organization, like all organizations, are the unsung heroes that we service members rely on to take care of our children, our homes, and a laundry list of other issues so we can concentrate on the mission.

Last I want to thank my wife Tami, for her support of me and of this assignment. She is truly an outstanding wife, hunting partner, and my best friend.

I leave A Company with gratitude toward all in the Battalion, fond memories, immense professional satisfaction, and a true sense of a time well spent doing something for others and for our Army. This experience has been a truly great experience that I will not forget. A Company is left in the capable hands of CPT Doug Smith as he assumes command in February. I wish him and the Cadre of A Company the best of luck as they pick up the next class on 13 March.

Best Regards,

MAJ Carl L. Bergmann
A-6



BRAVO COMPANY

B Company picked up class 02-06 on 7 November 2005. We started the class with 132 officer candidates and will commission approximately 123 Second Lieutenants on 23 February 2006. The class is currently prepping for the Senior Status Inspection after spending a couple of weeks in the field for FLX II/III. The B Company candidates have done an outstanding job over the last 10 weeks and will be prepared for their respective Officer Basic Courses.

The Bravo Company cadre has done a fantastic job in training this current class. Their professionalism has been commendable and I would like to thank them for a job well done. We have had some changes in our cadre due to various moves. I would like to thank CPT Corey Hemingway and his wife LaTonya for their great work in the company. CPT Hemingway passed command to me in October and has PCSed to Fort Eustis, VA. I would also like to thank CPT Tim Rose, CPT John Craft, and SFC Robert Florez for their work in Bravo Company. CPT Rose is now the Senior Platoon Trainer in Echo Company, CPT Craft is the Senior Platoon Trainer in Delta Company, and SFC Florez is a Platoon Trainer in Echo Company. I would like to wish these three the best and know that their new companies will benefit from having them as part of their cadre.

We will be losing our XO, 2LT Del Toro, at the end of this cycle. He has been with us since December after recently completing IOBC. He will be leaving us to report to his first duty assignment.

Congratulations to SFC(P) Quinn who recently came out on the E8 list. He will soon continue his career as a First Sergeant somewhere. Also, congratulations to newly promoted CPT Thorne.

CPT Robert D. Wiggins
Bravo Company Commander



CHARLIE COMPANY

Once again as we prepare to begin another Officer Candidate School cycle (Class 04-06) it is indeed an honor for me to serve in such a capacity as company commander and to be part of such a winning team. I recently took command on 17 January 06, and I take this obligation with open arms, knowing that many of the finest leaders of our Army will graduate and become commissioned officers through this program as we continue to support the Global War on Terror.

Currently this upcoming cycle is scheduled to receive around 140 candidates, which is considered a relatively large class. Indeed, we will be extremely busy, but we are going to be up to the challenge. I say this with much confidence due to the experience and overall professionalism that the cadre will provide during the course that ultimately will have a strong impact on candidates.

In the upcoming month we look forward to receiving some of the best and sought-out future leaders that will come through this program. The morale of the unit is high and we hope that it only gets higher as we press on and get busy with the work ahead. There is clearly a lot of hard work that goes into a 14 week cycle, but we are up to the task.

I want to give special thanks to the entire staff of cadre who that will make the difference as they prepare to teach, assess, and counsel day in and day out many future officers who will lead soldiers into combat. To 1SG Braaten, who is relatively a new arrival like myself, I thank you for being very excited about this assignment. Together we will make a solid team, and have already started building a solid sense of unity that will continue to spread throughout the unit.

Lastly, I greatly appreciate all the continued support from the other companies and the battalion headquarters. You have made an easy transition for me along with others in the unit.

STANDARDS, NO COMPROMISE!

CPT Mark R. Danner
Charlie Company Commander



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DELTA COMPANY

D Company graduated class 09-05 on December 8th, with a ceremony that will not be soon forgotten, and went on a well deserved break during the Christmas season. Class 09-05 was an outstanding class, and their can-do attitude will soon permeate our Army as they complete their levels of BOLC training and move on to their first assignments. I would be remiss if I did not recognize CPT Danner and SSG Branscum as the Platoon Trainers of the Cycle for Class 09-05.

During the break, many of the cadre left the area to visit family and friends, and to enjoy some vacation time. After the New Year, we began preparing for our next training cycle. Several members of the company had the pleasure of becoming certified in Level I Combatatives, and still others are attending additional schools to contribute to their professionalism. SSG Gregory completed BNCOC, and SSG Branscum completed Pathfinder. One of our "on loan" 2LT's from 2-11 IN, 2LT Malcolm, successfully completed Airborne training and is currently in Ranger School.

The company is scheduled to start OCS Class 03-06 on January 30th. Our load may be a little lighter than with class 09-05, and we are looking forward to molding another group of future Lieutenants for our Army. This cycle will cover both the President's Day and Easter holidays, but that will not significantly impact training. Presently, we are standing by, ready to train.

We have experienced a slight turnover of personnel. CPT Danner recently took command of C Company, and 1LT Zeruto has PCSed to complete his Bachelor's Degree. Both will be missed. We have added CPT Craft as our Senior Trainer, CPTs Kinney and Haggas as Platoon Trainers, and 1LT Long as our company Executive Officer. All bring a wealth of knowledge to the table, and look forward to their new assignments.

DELTA COMPANY

CPT John B. Nalls
Delta Company Commander



DAWG POUND

NO COMPROMISE!!”

ECHO COMPANY

E Company has started out the year with a bang as the newest addition to OCS. Since October 2005, E Co has been acquiring furniture, supplies and various military equipment to begin operations. With the tremendous help of the Battalion XO, MAJ O'Steen, and the entire Battalion S4 section, E Co was able to begin operations on 9 Jan 06. We started with 157 candidates after the initial APFT and in week three we have been able to keep all 157. Over the past few weeks the company has done well as we focused on team building events such as the Bolton Obstacle Course, Combat Water Survival Test, Downing Mile, and the Leadership Reaction Course. We have also been able to execute two 5-mile foot marches and numerous platoon and company runs.

On 24 JAN we had our first company FRG meeting with some of the spouses in the local area. Currently the candidates have been doing very well and are maintaining their discipline in all areas. To date, the candidates have been on three "On post" passes and should continue the trend as they continue their mission here at OCS.

We would like to thank the following cadre and their families for coming on board with E Co:

1SG: 1SG Charleswell • SR Trainer: CPT Rose
• 1ST PLT: CPT Logan • 1ST PLT: SFC Defelice
• 2ND PLT: CPT Sztalkoper • 2ND PLT: SSG Dallas
• 3RD PLT: CPT Matavao • 3RD PLT: SFC Florez
• 4TH PLT: CPT Simmons • 4TH PLT: SFC Spencer
• 5TH PLT: SFC Hunt • CO XO: 2LT Elze •
SUPPLY: SGT Merrill

Looking forward into this next quarter we have lots of challenging events ahead. Some of the challenges ahead are land navigation, FLX I, FLX II/III, Senior Status Review, Battalion Commander's Social, a trip to Andersonville, and Senior Seminars. E Co candidates and cadre will also have the privilege of being the main effort at the OCS Hall of Fame on March 30th & 31st. These events will allow E Co to see the professional side of officership and work with OCS legends of the past.

Special thanks to MAJ O'Steen, all of the E Co cadre, and the BN S4 section for all of your hard work in preparing the company for success.

CPT Ray Ferguson
Echo Company Commander



HHC

Greetings everyone from HHC. The Soldiers and civilians working in HHC continue with the crucial behind-the-scenes work to help the Battalion accomplish its mission to train and educate Lieutenants for the Army. This work continues without letup and I couldn't be more proud of the folks in HHC and the great work they are doing for the Army and our country.

This month SSG Smith from the S2 / S3 section began Drill Sergeant School. Once he graduates, he will move over to Sand Hill to train the Army's newest Soldiers. In February we lose SSG Jessica Kinsey from the HHC team as she heads to Fort Rucker to attend Warrant Officer Candidate School. Also in February, CPT Cole is looking forward to the arrival of another long-anticipated member of the family – congratulations!

All in all, things are going well for the company and Battalion headquarters, and I appreciate all the hard work by everyone.

MAJ David Daniels
HHC Commander



OCS HALL OF FAME TO INDUCT 43 NEW MEMBERS

3rd BN 11th IN (OCS) will induct 43 new members into the OCS Hall of Fame on 31 March 2006. The Hall of Fame honors those graduates of Officer Candidate School who have distinguished themselves in military or civilian pursuits.

Any one of several kinds of achievements makes a graduate eligible for consideration for the Hall of Fame. Applicants must have graduated from an Active Duty Army OCS program. OCS will consider applications from or on behalf of: Medal of Honor winners; those graduates who have attained the rank of Colonel while serving on active duty or in the reserves; graduates elected or appointed to an office of prominence in the national or state government; graduates who have achieved national or state recognition for outstanding service to the nation; or those who attained an exceptional wartime service record. Such achievements mark the best of the best of the thousands of great American Soldiers who graduated OCS.

The induction festivities begin on 30 March 2006 with an induction banquet at 1800 at the Fort Benning Officers' Club. Events on 31 March include the Hall of Fame Breakfast at the OCS DFAC, and the induction ceremony at Marshall Auditorium. The ceremony will be followed by an informal reception in the 3-11th Battalion area.

The 2006 inductees are:

MG	Randal E. Thomas	COL	Ronald K. MacCammon
BG	Dana D. Batey	COL	Matthew P. McGuiness
BG	David E. Glines	COL	Berri K. Meyers
BG	Roger L. Shields	COL	Stuart C. Pike
COL	Karen S. Adams	COL	William H. Poland
COL	Elizabeth D. Austin	COL	Gregory A. Ritch
COL	Ronald E. Beasley	COL	Mary Joe Shanks
COL	William W. Braley, Sr.	COL	Teddy R. Spain
COL	Ellis E. Brumbaugh, Jr.	COL	Kurt J. Stein
COL	Carl E. Bryant, Jr.	COL	Michael J. Thomas
COL	Donald S. Burke, Jr.	COL	Roderick G. Turner
COL	Robert B. Chisholm	COL	Hugh C. Van Roosen, II
COL	Glen C. Collins, Jr.	COL	Stevenson M. Wallace
COL	Ronnie R. Cox	LTC	Bardon Blizzard, Jr.
COL	Manuel A. Diemer	LTC	John W. Collins, Jr.
COL	Michael J. Donovan	MAJ	Russel A. Buckhalt
COL	David M. Gill	MAJ	Daniel D. Turner
COL	Gary R. Grimes	CPT	Michael E. Mahoney
COL	Thomas A. Horlander	CPT	John B. Poindexter
COL	William K. Keith	1LT	Charles W. Doubleday, III
COL	Thomas M. Kelley	1LT	Rocco C. Siciliano
COL	Robert G. Louis		

Our congratulations to each of these outstanding Soldiers!

COMMUNITY

COMMISSARY SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE APPROACHING

The Commissary is now taking applications for the 2006 scholarship program "Military Scholars." **The deadline is COB 22 FEB 06.** Applications may be picked up at and submitted to the Commissary. For more information, drop by the commissary or visit <http://www.militaryscholar.org/>. A .PDF application can be downloaded from this site, but the Fort Benning Commissary must receive the application.

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The next 3-11th FRG meeting
will be held on 1 March 2006
at 1700 in Wigle Hall.

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OCS COFFEE GROUP

If you are interested in being a member of the OCS Coffee Group that meets once a quarter, please send your personal e-mail address to Linda Carson at armyrats@yahoo.com. Coffee announcements and invitations are sent out via e-mail.

**Next Coffee: 8 February at 1800
at B. Merrel's on Veteran's Pkwy.**

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Fort Benning Women's Conference

Wednesday, 22 March 2006

7:45-8:30am check-in, 8:30a.m.—3:00p.m. conference

Registration is \$15.00 if postmarked by 3 March (includes continental breakfast and lunch)

Late Registration 4-17 March is \$20 (No childcare after 3 March)

The Conference will be held at the O'Club on Main Post and is open to ALL military spouses.

See the CH Thompson for a registration form.

Community, continued...

MILITARY SPOUSE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED

The National Military Family Association is now accepting applications for NMFA's Joanne Holbrook Patton Military Spouse Scholarships. Any uniformed service spouse—active duty, retired, National Guard, Reserve, or survivor—studying toward professional certification or attending post-secondary or graduate school is encouraged to apply. Scholarships, normally in the amount of \$1,000, may be used for tuition, fees, books, and school room and board. The number of scholarships awarded each year varies. Applications can be found at www.nmfa.org/scholarships2006 and must be submitted online by **midnight 15 April 2006**.

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THE SOLDIER AND FAMILY LIFE CONSULTANT PROGRAM

This program was developed by the DOD, after the extension of troops of the 104th ASG in May 2004, in an effort to provide informal support for the Soldiers and their family members. The consultants are licensed civilian professionals who can help when a Soldier or an immediate family member is feeling stressed by: separation issues, relationship conflict, parenting difficulties, depression, anxiety, grief, anger, and combat stress.

The consultant's role is to provide immediate and short term intervention, education, and skill building in a supportive manner. All services are totally free, confidential*, and career-safe (*Of course if someone is a danger to oneself or others the consultant has a legal duty to warn.)

Two part-time consultants are at Fort Benning, a male and a female: Larry Meisel and Rae Lynn Nettles. They are available throughout the week and into the evenings and weekends as requested. They are located at Army Community Service, Bldg 2624 in Soldiers' Plaza, but will meet a Soldier or family member on post or in the community at a location that is comfortable for the Soldier or family member. Their confidential cell phone number is **(706) 566-1033**. Their office phone number is **(706) 545-2158**.

PASTOR'S PEN

In my mission to guarantee and support the free exercise of religion and non-religion alike in this battalion, I have occasionally been asked by my fellow Christians, "What's the word for today?" My answer is always, "The word for the day is always the crucified and risen Lord." Recently I began to wonder what I would say to someone who was not religious, or was of another faith. How would I give meaning to those very religious words? This is very important to me, because I am chaplain for everyone, not just people from my faith tradition. I would be failing the Army if I failed to consider the spiritual needs of others, and I would also be failing my ordination vows.

On reflection, I have an idea. I don't have the space or time to fully unpack it here (libraries have been filled on such things!), but I will offer a line or two about my "word of the day." To say, "the word is always the crucified and risen Lord," is to affirm that suffering, hardship, and death will not have the last word on human existence. It is to say that evil will not prevail over ultimate love, mercy, and grace (yes, there is a hymn about that). My hope is that those things would resonate with anyone, regardless of religion.

May love, mercy, and grace be with us all.

Rev. Eric Thompson
BN Chaplain



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*If you have any suggestions or comments regarding the **OCS Standard**, contact CH Thompson at 545-0375, or john.e.thompson2@benning.army.mil.*